

THE OMINOUS CALM

That Presages the Coming Storm in the Miners' Strike.

OPERATORS PLANNING A COUP

That May Bring Dismay to Their Employees.

TO INTRODUCE THE MACHINES.

Which will Do Away with a Large Number of Diggers--Proprietors of Mines Say that this Course Becomes Necessary Because West Virginia People are Gobbling All of Their Contracts--Tribune Apprehended at Stickie Hollow--Arbitration Commissioners Meet, but Nothing is Done Towards a Solution of the Strike Problem.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., July 13--The proverbial calm before the storm is likely to be carried out in the miners strike situation. Throughout the day everything in the district has a peaceful look, all the mines but two or three were closed down, and both operators and miners appeared to be resting on their oars as it were. To-night, however, it develops that a number of the operators have been quietly planning a coup which is expected to bring dismay to the miners. It is the intention at once to equip the mines with machines and do away with a great many diggers. When the mines are ready to start, miners will be imported and put to work under heavy guard, and the premises barricaded after the manner pursued by the Carnegies during the great iron strike of '92. With the co-operation of the other operators, J. A. Beldier, of the Webster Gas Coal company, located on the Monongahela river, will take the initiative. The operators claim that this plan becomes necessary, because the West Virginia people are gobbling all of their contracts. It goes without saying that the diggers will resort to every possible means to prevent the carrying out of the proposed scheme.

From present appearances the Stickie Hollow tragedy of '94, when seven striking miners were killed, is likely to be repeated soon. This mine is in the Washington Run district, and was reported yesterday as closed. The managers deny that it has closed for an hour. They are determined to continue work, and have made preparations for trouble. It was reported that the miners headquarters here to-night that 1,000 were ready to march on the mine and bring out the 400 men working there. The attempt is to be made on Friday or Saturday. This mine is shipping daily 100 cars, and is a menace to the success of the strike. A movement is also on foot among the strikers along the Pan Handle to march to the Boone and Allison mines and compel the miners there to quit work. If these threats are carried out there will probably be a repetition of the bloody scenes that characterized the closing days of the strike of 1894. It is probable that Eugene V. Debs will spend a few days in this district. The local officials are making an effort to have him address several meetings here before he goes to West Virginia.

LULL IN THE STRIKE

For the Reason that Nearly all the Mines in the Pittsburgh District are Idle, Meetings Held by Miners to Prevent Lukewarmness.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., July 13--There is a lull in the miners' strike in this district, attributable to the fact that nearly every mine in the district is idle. To keep up the enthusiasm and prevent the strikers from becoming lukewarm in the cause, however, the officials have arranged for a series of meetings in different sections every day. Three meetings were held yesterday, at Banning, Fayette City, and West Newton, and at each place resolutions were adopted not to return to work until the officials gave the order. This morning a large meeting was held at Snowden, on the Wheeling division, and the men were unanimous to stand firm for the sixty-nine cent rate. The miners on this division fear that the company will soon begin evictions from their houses, and intimate that if this is attempted, there will be trouble. The meeting to-day was addressed by President Garland, of the Amalgamated Association; Thomas Grundy, of the United Teamsters; M. P. Carrick, of the Painters' and Decorators, and John Kelly, of the United Labor League.

News reached the miners' headquarters this afternoon that the diggers in the Cannell, Warner & Morgan mines, Beaver county, had thrown down their picks and joined the general strike. The three pits employ about three hundred men.

STRIKE SPREADS--The strike has also spread to Mercer county. Five mines are idle in that region to-day. They are Holville, Spear, Ridge and Diamond mines numbers 1 and 2. The men struck for an advance of ten cents per ton. An effort was made to-day to resume work at the Eagle mine, at Monongahela City. It is a co-operative concern, but the sentiment of a majority of the stockholders was against resumption and it was decided to keep the pit closed until the strike was settled.

A dispatch from Brownsville says: The Knob, Beaumont, Empire and Albany mines have closed down, and the miners have joined in the general strike, with a determination to remain out until the question of wages is satisfactorily settled.

National President M. D. Hatchford, of the United Mine Workers, is expected in Pittsburgh to-night or to-morrow, and will meet the commissioners. District President Patrick Dolan came from his home in Cecil to-day, where he has been sick for several days. He said the strike as far as the eastern end is concerned, is progressing in good shape. When asked about arbitration, he said that what is wanted is a means whereby the miner may get fair pay for his labor. "It is a question of hard earned bread," he added, "which has been long withheld. If arbitration brings a satisfactory settlement then arbitration is the proper course."

TO BRING OUT MINERS--President Dolan said a movement would shortly be made on the mines above the Pennsylvania railroad, that are still in operation, and a strong effort will be made to bring them out on a strike, Na-

plans have yet been arranged to bring out the men at the three mines of the New York and Cleveland Gas Coal Company, but Mr. Dolan says they will receive attention later in the week.

Governor Atkinson, of West Virginia, accompanied by his wife, and a number of state officials, spent the day in Pittsburgh, en route to Canada, where they will attend the convention of the Epworth League. Concerning the miners' strike, he said: "The coal strike is not affecting West Virginia very much, and I do not believe the main body of our miners will go out. I do not anticipate any trouble whatsoever from the strike in our state and believe the trouble all over the country will be speedily settled by arbitration."

ARBITRATION CONFERENCE--

There is a bare possibility that the joint arbitration conference may yet lead to the termination of the miners strike on the basis of the "true uniformity" agreement proposed by President De Armit, of the New York & Cleveland Gas Coal Company last year, but which failed for the reason that the ninety-seven per cent of the operators in this district required by De Armit could not be secured.

Two sessions of the arbitration board were held to-day, representatives from the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana and Illinois, being present. At the afternoon session, President DeArmit appeared before the board and told of the conditions which exist from his point of view. He recited the history of the miners struggles for better conditions. He told of the great uniformity movement in 1895-96, which failed of its purpose. Mr. DeArmit said: "If the operators of the Pittsburgh district will abolish their company stores, use a uniform screen, give honest weight, 2,000 pounds of coal for a ton; pay cash every two weeks, I will leave it to any committee to settle the price of mining and pay it, no matter how high, providing all my competitors pay the same price. Unless these conditions can be brought about, I will not agree to abolish the contract with my men, nor can I afford to do so."

Mr. DeArmit pointed to the fact that his men were working to-day when almost every other mine in the district was idle. He said that he fully intended to pay his men the district price whenever the other operators will meet his terms. If true uniformity was secured here, however, it would so involve the interests of the other bituminous states, he said, that ultimately there would have to be a chain of uniformity agreement in all the states that would cost much money and require considerable time to accomplish. He promised the board all assistance in his power in securing a settlement upon the basis proposed, but said under no consideration would he treat with the United Mine Workers.

President Dolan and Secretary Warner, of the Mine Workers' Association, were before the commission in the evening and recited their grievances. They disputed much that Mr. DeArmit had said and questioned the sincerity at this time. They claimed that when 90 per cent of the operators had been secured for uniformity, DeArmit agreed to it, but later he found a technical loophole and availed himself of it to repudiate his original proposition. The board will meet DeArmit again to-morrow and will endeavor to get the operators together for the purpose of inducing them to make another attempt to secure true uniformity as outlined by the former at to-day's conference.

CLEVELAND OPERATORS

Declare the Situation to be Very Grave. They Believe the West Virginia Miners Will be Persuaded to Join the Strikers. Startling Developments Looked For.

CLEVELAND, O., July 13--Within forty-eight hours developments of a very definite character are expected to take place in the West Virginia coal fields. A leading operator received a long distance telephone message at 10 o'clock this morning stating that nine organizers had just left Pittsburgh for the West Virginia coal fields. A person who occupies a high official position in the mine workers union was at the Pittsburgh end of the telephone.

"You may look for something startling in that direction within the next forty-eight hours," he said. "Reliable advice which I have received this morning convince me the West Virginia miners will come out. All they wait for is a little urging from the union. I am free to confess to you that while I expected many men would come out, I never hoped for such a complete and overwhelming victory as this."

The foregoing message was repeated to a reporter who was standing at hand by the operator who received it. When that point is reached that the coal mine operators refuse to talk for "publication," the situation is grave indeed. The operators now urge upon their interviewers that under no circumstances must their names be used in connection with the information they have supplied. A leading operator made a plain statement, a startling statement in fact, this morning, but insisted his name must not be used.

"Is there not some part of your statement which I may credit to you?" asked the reporter.

"No. You see if I talked for publication, I would have to say to you just the opposite of what I have said. You appreciate that there are many reasons why I do not want my name to appear as admitting all these facts."

Since Saturday the coal strike has assumed a very grave aspect, but a full realization of the change did not reach Cleveland operators and dealers until to-day. Excepting a few operators who had some inside information they were disposed to speak lightly of the matter and loudly declare that there was coal on hand, more than enough to supply the country regardless of the outcome of the strike. To-day all this seeming or pretended confidence had disappeared.

Several operators went to Pittsburgh yesterday to attend the voluntary conference of the state arbitrators. One of these whose knowledge of the premises is above question, said to-day: "The situation is very grave and I anticipate some very startling developments within the next forty-eight hours. I believe the West Virginia miners will come out and that will make the tie up practically complete, for the strikers will then concentrate all their efforts on the DeArmit's men. A small amount of coal is now coming from the mines along the Pennsylvania main line, and the coke regions, but it is in comparatively insignificant quantities. I think it will be shut off entirely very soon. From what I could learn yesterday at Pittsburgh, I do not hesitate to say that in my belief the railroads will hesitate to haul West Virginia and DeArmit's mines coal. The engineers and trainmen are regarding the situation with lowering brows. P. M. Arthur's statement to the contrary now withstanding. The supply of coal on hand is very short and I look for another sharp advance in price shortly. Saturday coal which was loaded at Pittsburgh

for \$1.25 to \$1.50 f. o. b. is now held at \$1.75. Delivered to Cleveland the price is \$3.65. Chicago is buying freely and paying high prices. I do not think the supply will hold out more than a week longer."

Mr. J. Phillips, another coal operator, said: "The people do not realize how serious this strike is. There is not enough coal on hand to supply the market more than a week or ten days longer. The miners have accomplished more than they expected to do and more than we ever thought they could accomplish. They are in a position to dictate. If this strike is settled it will be when the operators go to the mine workers. The latter do not have to go to the operators. I think the railroads will soon refuse to haul West Virginia coal if the trainmen do not refuse to handle it."

Flemington Miners Reported Out.

CLEVELAND, O., July 13--Mr. J. J. Phillips received a telegram from Flemington, W. Va., this afternoon: "Miners all went out on strike here this morning." Flemington is an important point in the West Virginia coal fields and local operators believe that the strike will now spread into West Virginia.

All Quiet in Kanawha Region.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., July 13--The strike situation in this section among the miners remains quiet. Four walking delegates have been operating to-day about Montgomery, but no impression is reported to have been made among them and no disaffection is apparent anywhere. About 50 miners from Montgomery were engaged to-day and sent away to the Monongah mines to work there.

At Work in the Piedmont Region.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

PIEDMONT, W. Va., July 13--The miners in this section are all working and there is no apparent disposition to strike. No agitators are known to be here. The Davis Coal Company refused an order for two hundred cars of coal from a Fairmont Coal Company for want of cars.

After Miners.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WESTON, W. Va., July 13--Representatives of nearly all of the coal and coke companies in the Pan-Handle railroad district are in this section picking up men to work in the mines.

Flint Glassworkers' Conference.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., July 13--Committee work occupied the entire day at the National Flint Glassworkers' convention to-day. The report of the lamp workers committee, which was read the day before, was the first matter taken up. The report recommended changes and reductions in certain lines, but the only material reduction was on the cheaper class of goods. The report was adopted after some discussion. In the afternoon the report of the mold makers' committee was taken up and discussed at length. It was finally adopted with but little change. A little life is being injected into the coming election, which will likely be held to-morrow afternoon or Friday morning. The representatives of the pressed ware workers are still trying to start a boom for C. N. Edmonds, of Greensboro, Ind., for the presidency, but President W. J. Smith is looked upon as a sure winner for reelection.

National Potters' Conference.

GREESON SPRINGS, Pa., July 13--

The Potters' Association of New Jersey, Ohio and West Virginia, began a conference here to-day to effect a plan by which the manufacturers can be protected from importation of crockery. They also desire to draw up a scale which will add all the glaziers and finishers in making more wages, and at the same time enable the owners of plants to turn out more material for the markets. The slump of the times were discussed and the outlook in their trade is brighter than for many months; the shipments are larger and the plants are to be put on full turn.

LIQUOR LICENSE WAR

In Charleston Takes on a New Phase.

"Rump" Council Grants License.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., July 13--The liquor license muddle here assumed a new shape to-day when the county court granted seventeen licenses which had been granted by eight members of the town council in regular meeting. There are sixteen members in the council, including the mayor and the recorder, and in the absence of the late recorder Percy Rowan, the eight concluded that they constituted a majority, and their action in granting the licenses was legal. The other faction, headed by Mayor De Gruyter swore in five extra policemen for duty at the saloons, to take the names of persons entering saloons, the intention being to prosecute saloon keepers selling under the licenses granted. Some of the mayor's faction may come over to the other side to-morrow, and in that case a clear and certain majority will be had for those which will settle the matter. There is talk of enjoining the mayor against making prosecutions.

Alien Tax Law Unconstitutional.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., July 13--

The alien tax law passed at the recent session of the legislature has been attacked in the United States courts. A bill in equity was filed to-day in the United States circuit court, in which it is claimed that the act is not only unconstitutional, but is a violation of the treaties between the United States and Great Britain. The plaintiff is John Fraser, a subject of the queen of Great Britain, and the defendant is the McCoway & Torley Company, by whom Fraser is employed. Fraser claims that his employers deducted three cents a day from his wages last week in accordance with the new law, and his attorney now asks the court to adjudge the law unconstitutional, inasmuch as it is contrary to the Fourteenth amendment of the constitution of the United States; is in opposition to the treaties with Great Britain and other countries, and is in violation of their treaty rights, passed by Congress in 1870.

State Board of Health.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., July 13--The state board of health met here to-day and organized by electing officers for the ensuing year. Dr. C. B. Blubaugh, of Parkersburg, was elected president, and Dr. A. R. Barbee, of Point Pleasant, was chosen for secretary. The board will begin to-morrow to examine applicants for license to practice medicine. About forty applicants are already here to be examined.

Chicago Capitalist Dead.

CHICAGO, July 13--Columbus R. Cummins, one of the most prominent capitalists of Chicago died late last night, of inflammation of the liver. Mr. Cummins was sixty-three years of age and left a fortune estimated at ten millions, mostly in gas, bank and street railway securities.

STILL AT VARIANCE.

Marked Disagreements of Tariff Conference on Duties.

MAY TAKE ANOTHER CAUCUS

To Reconcile the Differences Now Existing--The Increased Duty on Pine Lumber the Bone of Contention--A Compromise Likely to be Reported with Reference to Certain Articles Placed on the Free List--Deficiency Bill Passes the Senate--Armor Plate Cut Down \$125 a Ton--Government Armor Factory Suggested--House Only in Session Three Minutes.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 13--The tariff conference find themselves to-day, apparently less certain than at any previous time as to the date when they will reach a final agreement, though professing to hope that the time will soon come. They are gradually disposing of one problem after another, but still have several left upon which there are such marked disagreements as to justify no predictions as to the result. There is even at this early date talk among Republican senators of the probable necessity for another caucus to determine the course to be pursued with reference to the conference report. There are several senators on that side of the chamber, who, it is feared, will vote against sustaining a report which increases the pine duty and who claim that they cannot be bound by the action of former caucuses which devoted their attention simply to schedules.

With reference to articles placed on the free list by the senate contrary to recommendation of the finance committee, the understanding about the senate to-day is that a compromise is likely to be reported, placing a very moderate duty on them. The Democrats say, however, that no duty likely to be agreed upon in a Republican conference will be small enough for them to accept upon cotton bagging, cotton ties, etc.

ARMOR PLATE

Engages the Attention of the Senate--Deficiency Bill Finally Passed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 13--The price to be paid for armor plate for the three new battleships now in course of construction was the theme of extended, and at times, lively debate, in the senate to-day. Late in the day an amendment to the deficiency appropriation bill was agreed to, restricting the price of armor plate to \$300 per ton, or \$125 less than the amendment reported by the committee and recommended by the navy department as the minimum rate acceptable to the armor contractors. Another amendment inserted in the bill directs the secretary of the navy to investigate as to the establishment of a government armor factory and to report to the next session of congress.

During the debate Mr. Hale urged that the failure to equip the battleships with armor would humiliate the United States in the eyes of the world, and would lessen our naval power at a time of possible foreign complication. After inserting the armor amendments, the deficiency appropriation bill, the last of the great supply measures was passed.

In Session Three Minutes.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 13--

The house took a recess to-day until to-morrow at noon, without transacting any business. Mr. Cannon, the chairman of the appropriations committee, of the last Congress, announced that it was evident that the deficiency bill would not be ready to act upon until to-morrow and he, therefore, moved a recess until to-morrow at noon and his motion carried. The house was in session but three minutes.

CABINET MEETING.

Revocation of Cleveland's Order Regarding Pension Agencies.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 13--Because some of the details of the order were not complete, Secretary Bliss was unable to lay before the cabinet at to-day's meeting, his proposition to revoke the order made by President Cleveland, closing some of the pension agencies.

There was a good deal of talk over appointments, and as a result the sending of the big list of consular nominations to the senate was delayed, in order that a few names might be added. The currency commission message did not cause any discussion because it is now understood that the President is settled in his determination to send it to Congress, and only awaits notice from the party leaders as to the time when this can be done without interfering with the programme arranged for the disposition of the tariff bill. The President himself does not believe that the sending of the message at this time would delay action on the tariff bill in the least, holding that the discussion is open and senate and house could be conducted during the time the conference on the tariff bill are at work in their rooms. He is, however, willing to defer in this matter to the opinions of certain Republican congressmen who take a contrary view and will not send in the message until advised that it will not jeopardize the tariff measure.

Foreign affairs, and notably the Hawaiian situation, are believed to have absorbed much of the attention of the meeting to-day and while it is stated that there has been no sensible change in the situation as to Hawaii it is known that the President very much desires speedy action on the annexation treaty, feeling that its approval would do much to remove complications that now threaten.

Introduced by Congressman Dorr.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, July 13--Representative Dorr has introduced bills in the house as follows: Granting a pension to Elizabeth Harrah, widow of Thomas Harrah; granting a pension to Andrew C. Smith for the relief of Joseph Lowdermilk, a war claim; granting a pension to Paul Summers; granting a pension to Mrs. Mary A. Hall, widow of Albert G. S. Hall; granting a pension to Mrs. Annie E. Eads, widow of Augustus Eads; granting a pension to E. G. Welch; granting a pension to Morgan Grimes; to carry out the findings of the court of claims in the case of Henry T. Woody; granting a pension to George W. Yeakum; granting a pension to C. C. Harvey; granting a pension to N. H. Mann.

REPUBLICAN LEAGUE

Of Clubs in National Convention Assembled at Detroit--Large Attendance of Delegates--President's Greeting.

DETROIT, Mich., July 13--Cool pleasant weather was furnished for the opening of the tenth annual convention of the National League of Republican clubs, which was called to order considerably later than the scheduled hour of 10 o'clock this morning. The Detroit auditorium, naturally crude and uninviting in appearance, was beautified by a considerable display of patriotic decorations. The most striking feature in the decorations was a life sized portrait of President McKinley, surmounted by an eagle and surrounded by the stars and stripes. Directly opposite, in the rear of the hall was a similar portrait of James G. Blaine. Pictures of Washington and Lincoln adorned the walls at either end of the big hall and the intervening spaces, rafters and gallery fronts were hung with the red, white and blue and escutcheons of the states. A graduated tier of seats in the rear of the platform having a capacity of 300 seats was occupied by more or less notable visitors. The delegates who were seated in state groups filled nearly the entire floor space and the local public looked on from the galleries. The states having the larger delegations were grouped in the front and center, the biggest space being occupied by Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, New York and Pennsylvania. The air was enlivened by band music, while the crowd gathered.

It was 10:30 o'clock when President Woodmansee rapped for order. The delegates had not yet settled down in the places assigned to them and the galleries had almost no occupants. Rev. Dr. Robert J. Service, of the Trumbull avenue Presbyterian church came forward to offer prayer. He prayed for a blessing on President McKinley, Congress, the governors of states, and all others in authority, and that the national honor might be saved from tarnishment.

President Woodmansee then introduced Governor Pingree to deliver the address of welcome on behalf of the state of Michigan.

The governor was compelled to pause for a moment on account of an interruption caused by a ripple of applause at the entrance of the Illinois delegation, headed by Governor Tanner. Mr. Pingree's address was not in any sense a spread eagle speech, and the applause was rather faint, coming mostly from his friends in the Michigan delegation. At one point the governor aroused a genuine burst of applause by an interpolated reference to the miners strike, expressing the hope that it would be successful.

Col. Henry M. Duffield, of this city, welcomed the delegates on behalf of Detroit.

E. N. Dingley, of Kalamazoo, was the next speaker. As president of the Michigan League of Republican clubs he welcomed the visiting delegates.

The president of the National League, D. D. Woodmansee, of Cincinnati, then delivered his annual address. (The address will be found on the Sixth page of this issue.)

The roll of states was then called for announcement of members of committees.

A resolution was adopted directing that a telegram of greeting be sent to President McKinley, congratulating him upon the success of the Republican administration and asserting that the promised era of prosperity is now near of fulfillment, and declaring that the league has always been the friend of McKinley and will always hold up his hands in advancing the interests of the country and of the party of Lincoln and of McKinley. At this point the following telegram from President McKinley to President Woodmansee, was read:

"I offer through you my heartiest congratulations on the tenth annual convention of the Republican league and my continued best wishes for the increased usefulness and prosperity of this worthy organization."

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

While the state delegations were getting together on committees announcements were made of meetings of committees and of the rally party this afternoon. No announcement of the list of committees was made, as many states had not settled upon their selections.

Telegrams of regret were read from Vice President Hobart, Secretary Sherman, Senators Allison, Quay, Wellington, Warren, Fairbanks, Burrows, Speaker Reed, Congressman Grosvener, Dingley, Fowler, Henderson, Secretaries Alger, Gary, Gage, Long, Wilson, Pension Commissioner Evans and others.

All resolutions were referred to the committee on resolutions, which meets to-night. The convention then adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Presidential Nominations.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 13--

The President to-day sent the following nominations to the senate:

War--Lieutenant colonels to be colonels--Guy V. Henry, Third Cavalry; L. H. Carpenter, Seventh Cavalry; Samuel B. M. Young, Fourth Cavalry; John M. Bacon, First Cavalry.

Major to be lieutenant colonel--A. E. Chaffee, Ninth Cavalry; Michael Conney, Fourth Cavalry; James Jackson Second Cavalry; Louis T. Morris, Third Cavalry.

Captains to be majors--W. C. Forbush, Fifth Cavalry; J. A. Augur, Fifth Cavalry; William A. Thompson, Fourth Cavalry; J. S. Loud, Ninth Cavalry.

Rank Outsider Wins.

DETROIT, Mich., July 13--Once more the rich Merchants and Manufacturers' stake, \$10,000, has been won by a man who can use the money to good advantage, and once more a driver not recognized as a star reinsman, has shown the way to the wire with half a dozen of the most celebrated drivers in the world trailing behind. In the hardest fought battle in the history of this stake, Rilla won it by winning the fourth, fifth and sixth heats. The race was full of sensations and characterized by heavy betting in which Rilla was a rank outsider. At the start Rilla sold for \$15 in pools of \$500 and after each of the first three heats her odds grew longer and most of the winners made on her were due to her name being thrown into the field.

Lehigh Valley's New President.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., July 13--

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company held in this city at noon to-day, Alfred Walter was elected president of the road, to succeed E. P. Wilbur, resigned. Three directors, William L. Conyngham, Charles O. Skeer and George H. Myers also resigned. Their places on the board were taken by Edward P. Hotesbury, of Philadelphia; C. H. Koster, of New York, and ex-President Wilbur.

Mr. Walter, the newly elected president has been connected with various railroads since 1872. He is at present president of the Delaware, Schuylkill & Susquehanna Railroad. All of the newly elected officers are favorable to the Morgan interests.

OIL FIRE RAGING

In the Elk Fork District of the Sistersville Field.

IT MAY CAUSE LOSS OF LIFE

As Over 600 Barrels of the Flaming Fluid is Running Down the Creek on which the Burning Wells are Located--Fire Caused by Gas from a Drilled Well Igniting from the Boiler Fires--Wells in the Entire Section May be Destroyed, as the Conflagration was Defying all Efforts to Subdue it at Last Reports.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER. SISTERSVILLE, W. Va., July 13--The worst oil fire ever known in the Sistersville field is now raging out in the Elk Fork district, and the indications are that before the flames have been extinguished the loss will amount to a great many thousands of dollars, and there may be some loss of life, as there is more than six hundred barrels of burning oil running down the little creek on which the burning wells are located.

Last evening Treat & Crawford drilled in the No. 1 on the Farrell farm to the northwest of developments in the Elk Fork district, and when the top of the sand was reached the well commenced to flow at the rate of twenty barrels an hour. Before the fire in the boiler could be extinguished and the boiler moved back the oil and gas caught fire and the tank was instantly burned.

An effort was made to fight the fire and save the engine house and the rig from burning, but it was not successful, and the entire outfit was burned. At the time the fire started the tools were hanging in the hole and they are at the bottom of it, and the tool, will, in all probability, be a total loss. All of last night there was a large crowd of workmen busy trying to put the fire out, but without success, and this morning the Henry Oil Company's No. 1 on the Williams farm, which is located but a short distance from the Farrell well, also caught fire and the rig, tank, engine house, etc., were burned.

The Williams well and the Farrell are two of the largest wells in that field and at the present time they are producing about seven hundred barrels of oil. All of this fluid as fast as it comes out of the well, is ignited and is flowing down the little run near by a rolling, hissing mass of the hottest fire one could imagine. The burning oil makes a very pretty spectacle, and is very suggestive of the molten lava which an active crater of a volcano emits.

Both the Henry Oil Company and Crawford & Treat are doing all in their power to extinguish the flames and shut in their wells, but so far they have been unsuccessful and there is great danger to a number of other wells which have been drilled in close proximity to their wells. There are also a number of wells drilling close by and many of these are in great danger. Should any more wells catch fire the loss will amount to a great many thousands of dollars.

None of the wells in the section where the burning wells are located are very far apart and if one of them should catch the entire lot could not be saved. The loss which will be sustained by the fire so far is variously estimated, but it is believed that it will amount to more than \$10,000, with first class indications for it becoming two or three times that amount.

FATALITIES AT A FIRE

Two Children Suffocated, Father Injured and Mother Fatally Injured.

NEW YORK, July 13--Two children were suffocated in a burning tenement house in Jersey City early to-day. Their parents are both so badly injured that they may not survive; a girl of 13 years was probably fatally burned, and a policeman sustained burns and inhaled smoke in such quantities that he may die. The fire broke out about 7 o'clock in the baker shop of Edward Manzer. So filled with smoke were the apartments and halls above the bakery that it was difficult to breathe, but the policemen remained at their posts and succeeded in rescuing many children and women, whom they passed out of windows to freemen on the fire ladders.

William Zeigler, a third floor tenant, had been ill and the flames and smoke drove him insane. Scantly attired he rushed about the building screaming and hindering the work of the freemen. He interfered with the policemen and fought with them when they attempted to rescue his children, who lay about the apartment unconscious from the effects of the smoke.

Finally a policeman grappled with him and managed to hold him while another officer picked up Thomas, a ten-year-old boy, and Bertha, his twelve-year-old sister, and carried them into the house, from which they were conveyed to the hospital. The officer next carried out Edward Zeigler, 3 years old, and William Zeigler, six months old. The latter was dead from suffocation.

When Zeigler saw his children taken from him he broke away from the policeman, and rushing to the front window sprang out, landing on the flag stones, 25 feet below. He was picked up by firemen. For a moment only was Zeigler quiet, and then dashed back to the burning building, calling madly for his wife and children. The man was captured later and sent in a patrol wagon to the hospital, where he was placed in a straight jacket. Policeman Bunnell fainted, and was carried to the hospital, where it was found that his neck and arms were burned. He was also suffering from the inhalation of smoke, and his condition is serious.

Shortly after Zeigler had jumped out of the window of his apartments his wife, despite the efforts of the policemen, followed his example. The woman was unconscious when picked up, and her chance of recovery is slight.

Sadie Campbell, 13 years old, was prostrated by smoke, and was found by policemen in her bed room. Her face and limbs were badly burned, and her recovery is doubtful.

Bertha Zeigler died at the hospital from the effects of burns and smoke.

Weather Forecast for To-day.